



From Spain to Canada

Canada 2005

A Spanish overview of Canadian academic libraries

Roser Gómez

Marta López

Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC)



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Summary

- Events leading up to the project
- Objectives of the stay
- Highlights of the visit:
 - Buildings
 - Cooperation
 - Collections and Services
 - Human resources
 - Management and Quality



Events leading up to the project

- Contacts made with Canadian member institutions at different IATUL conferences
- IATUL grant for international cooperation projects between member institutions awarded to the project
- Mobility grant awarded by AGAUR (Catalan University and Research Grant Agency)



Objectives of the stay

- To attend the 26th IATUL Conference at Université Laval Library, Québec City (Canada), May 29 - June 2, 2005
- To make a working tour of different university libraries:
 - **McGill University (Montreal)**
 - <http://www.library.mcgill.ca/psel>
 - **University of Waterloo**
 - <http://www.lib.uwaterloo.ca/index1.html>



Objectives of the stay

- To learn about innovative experiences and projects applicable to UPC libraries on the following themes:
 - New buildings and library design
 - Virtual reference service
 - Scientific communication and institutional repositories
 - Library literacy projects
 - Service quality
- At each of the universities:



Buildings

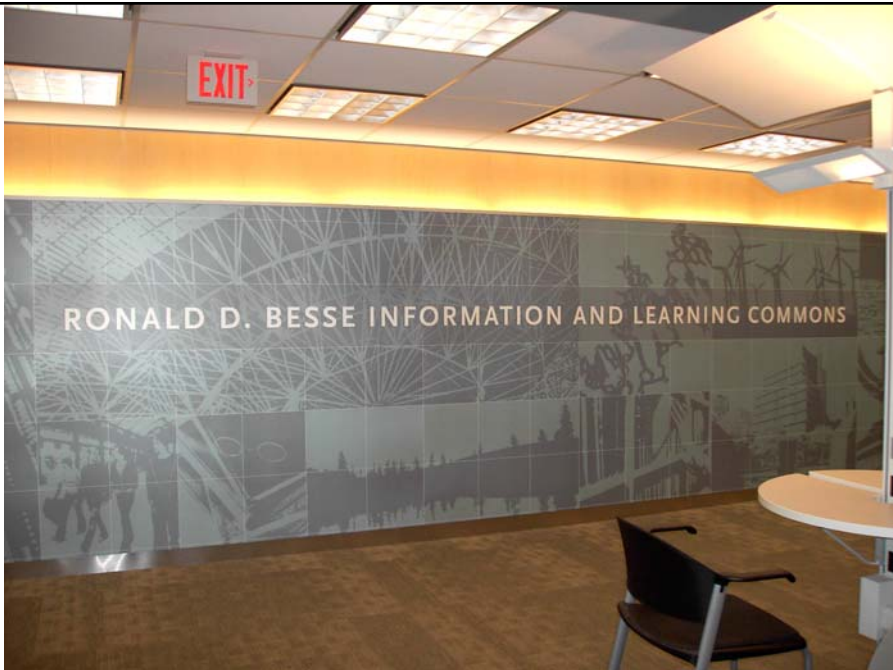
- Libraries in old buildings: McGill University and the Engineering Faculty of the University of Toronto (UofT)
- Redesigning buildings as a strategic improvement project: Waterloo, Western Ontario and Ryerson Universities
- Building new libraries: L'École Polytechnique de Montreal, Gerstein



Bibliothèque de l'École Polytechnique de Montréal



Bibliothèque de l'École Polytechnique de Montréal



Ryerson University Library - Toronto



Davis Centre Library - Univ of Waterloo



D.B. Weldon Library – Western Libraries



Morrison Pavillon, Gerstein Science Information Centre. UofT



Cooperation

- **CARL** > Canadian Association of Research Libraries
- **OCUL** > Ontario Council of University Libraries: (UofT)
 - OZone - Consortial Dspace Repository
 - Ontario Scholars Portal – Open Access System
 - Racer (Rapid Access to Collections by



Human resources

Library staff:

- Librarians:
 - “Liaison librarians”
 - Training
 - Reference
- Library assistants:
 - Acquisitions
 - Cataloguing



Graduation ceremony at the UofT



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Management and Quality

- Role of the manager: crucial to seeking funding for library projects. A lot of foresight required; fully developed projects await funding
- Adapting to change: how libraries adjust to the changing university environment
- Evaluation of quality of service: moving



Allyn & Betty Taylor Library –Western Libraries



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Services / Collections

- **Library instruction - Information Literacy:**
 - Long tradition: “National Conference for Library Instruction”
 - Strategic subject
 - The role of the “Information Literacy Coordinator”
- **Virtual Reference Service:**
 - “Right about now...You could use a librarian”
 - “Chat with a librarian”

Services / Collections

- **(Institutional) repositories :**
 - TSpace (UofT Research Repository)
 - The Archives and Research Collection Center (University of Western Ontario)
- Not acquiring teaching bibliographies/acquiring specialised bibliographies
- Electronic collections that are similar to



Danna Potter Library - University of Waterloo



High Density Module – Western Archives (ARCC)



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Conclusions

- Globalization also affects the world of university libraries
- Differences between universities in Spain and Canada
- Importance of maintaining close links/relations between libraries and universities, with a very clear motivation to provide a service

Conclusions

- Funding:
 - Fixed budget (for collections and staff)
 - Each library seeks private funding to carry out particular projects
- Librarians with faculty status: a good thing
- Information literacy: a forward-looking policy
- University libraries + Educational Support





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Thanks!

Thanks to all the library directors and staff who invited us to spend some days with them, sharing their knowledge and work with us, and of course to the IATUL Board to contribute to make it possible.

